

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

February 25, 1980

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



482099

TO: Rans Hill, Staff Supervisor, Law Enforcement Division
FROM: William Busby, Chief, Criminal Investigative Section
Environmental Enforcement Division
SUBJECT: K.O.I. Petroleum - Request for assistance

File

Attached is a letter from Pete Ollila, Oil & Hazardous Materials Control Section, Water Quality Division reference a K.O.I. Petroleum facility at 421 Lyecaste, Detroit. As the letter indicates this facility is in the process of changing ownership. The facility needs to be cleaned up considerably prior to the new owner commencing operations. Since the least expensive method may be via illegal methods, I would request that District 14 be notified of the situation and to work directly with the Oil & Hazardous Materials Section to institute a surveillance on the facility.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

WB:dr

cc: P. Ollila

~~D. Dennis~~

Attachment

RECEIVED
FEB 26 1980
Water Qual. Control

✓ LNWK K.O.I.

SERIES ()

February 21, 1980

FILE

List category to be filed in

Other

MEMO TO: Bill Busby, Environmental Enforcement Division

FROM: Peter Ollila, Oil & Hazardous Materials Control Section

SUBJECT: K.O.I. Petroleum (Transenvironmental Corporation)

Last week I was contacted by Thomas Ross of MacRoss and Company. He indicated that he was interested in purchasing a bulk storage plant located at 421 Lyecaste, Detroit, which is presently owned by K.O.I. Petroleum. As you know K.O.I. Petroleum is affiliated with Transenvironmental Corporation based in Hamilton, Ohio. K.O.I. Petroleum has been storing liquid industrial waste for the last several years to be used in a "supplemental fuels program." It appears that they have been unable to pass the material off as a fuel and have pulled up stakes leaving the facility in the hands of a broker and nearly full of waste material. I explained the situation to Mr. Ross and advised him that if he purchased the property, he would be responsible to the waste material in the tanks. Mr. Ross contacted the broker to discuss the problem. The broker indicated that the present owner would be willing to clean the material out of the tanks.

I met with Mr. Ross on February 20, 1980, and he advised me that he had made a formal offer to purchase the facility with the stipulation that the material is removed from the tanks and the tanks are steam cleaned on or before the closing date. Mr. Ross indicated that the owner was willing to clean the material out of the tanks but not steam clean the tanks. If an agreement is reached, Mr. Ross indicated that he would contact us immediately.

Mr. Ross is also considering making an offer for a nominal amount of cash for the facility and cleaning the material out of the tanks himself. He indicated that he is willing to enter into an agreement setting a time table for cleaning the tanks if the owner is willing to take the second option.

In the event that an agreement is reached by the end of the week or the early part of next week, our staff is prepared to set up a surveillance on the plant to determine how K.O.I. intends to transport the waste and where it is being disposed of. We would like the assistance of the environmental officers for the surveillance as Transenvironmental has been known to use unlicensed vehicles and utilize disposal sites that have not been approved or licensed.

cc: D. Dennis
P. Ollila
✓ Files

February 14, 1980

TO: Files

FROM: Peter D. Ollila
Oil & Hazardous Materials Control

SUBJECT: Transenviromental Corporation, Unlicensed Vehicles

Attached is a case brief, and other pertinent information, for an unlicensed vehicle found at K.O.I. Petroleum on 4/26/79. Information was presented to Joe Klein, Assistant Prosecutor in Wayne County. It was his opinion that, although the vehicle had been on the road, we did not actually observe it on the road, he decided not to pursue prosecution.

clp